REPUBLIC OF KENYA

COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF LAIKIPIA

THE HANSARD

Wednesday, 1st September, 2021

The House met at the Assembly Chambers at 9.00 a.m.

[The Speaker (Hon. Patrick Waigwa) in the Chair]

PRAYERS

QUORUM CALL

Speaker: Clerk kindly confirm whether we have quorum.

(Lack of Quorum confirmed)

Speaker: Serjeant at Arms to ring bell for ten minutes or until such a time as when we achieve quorum.

(The bell was rung for five minutes)

Speaker: Clerk you can confirm whether we have achieved quorum.

(Quorum confirmed)

Speaker: Serjeant at Arms to stop the bell.

MOTIONS

[Resumption of previous debate dated 31st August, 2021)

QUARTERLY REPORT AND STATEMENTS BY THE COUNTY COHESION, JUSTICE AND LEGAL MATTERS COMMITTEE

THAT this Assembly adopts the report of the Committee on County Cohesion, Justice and Legal Matters on County Government of Laikipia (County Executive) quarterly report and financial statements for the quarter ended 31st December, 2019 dated 18th August, 2021.

Speaker: Hon. Members, we debated on this motion yesterday. The Mover had replied and it is only the question that had not been put.

(Question put and agreed to)

MOTION

QUARTERLY REPORT AND STATEMENTS BY THE AGRICULTURE, ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Hon. Wilson Wakahiu: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. On behalf of the Chair of the Agriculture, Environment and Natural Resources, Hon. Simon Kanyutu, I wish to move the following motion.

THAT this Assembly adopts the quarterly reports and financial statements for the period ended 31st December, 2019 for the Department of Water, Environment and Natural Resources by the Agriculture, Environment and Natural Resources Committee dated 17th August, 2021.

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Mr. Speaker, the Committee of Agriculture, Environment and Natural Resources Committee comprises of five Members, who are: -

1. Hon. Simon Kanyutu – Chairperson
2. Hon. Patricia Muthoni – Vice Chairperson
3. Hon. Robert Maina – Member
4. Hon. Mutahi Muritu – Member
5. Hon. Wilson Wakahiu – Member

Committee's Mandate

Mr. Speaker, the Committee's mandate is defined in the Standing Order No. 191 (5) and I believe that is something we all understand from the Standing Orders of the County Assembly of Laikipia.

Scrutiny of the quarterly report

According to the Committee's mandate, the committee held several meetings to scrutinize the 1st quarter report for the period ending 31st December, 2019 for the said department in order to report back to the House. After scrutiny of the report, the committee wrote this report in order to present it to the House for adoption.

Mr. Speaker, as per the report, in page three there is a budget absorption rate where Members can understand how the department observed the approved budget of the said financial year, 2019/20; The expenditure for the period ending in the said quarter, that is 31st September, 2019 and the expenditure period that was supposed to end in the same year, 2019.

Mr. Speaker, the total expenditure for that department was Kshs.214, 965,392 out of the approved budget of Kshs.221, 056,584. On table 2, there are pending bills including civil works, supply of goods and total outstanding bills.

Mr. Speaker, the committee observed the following;

1. The department had total annual budget of Kshs. 221,056,584 out of which only Kshs. 6,091,192 was expended representing 2.75% absorption rate.
2. The department did not spend on three sub-programmes namely solid waste management, human wildlife conflict prevention and natural resources management in the 1st and 2nd quarters of the 2019/2020 F/Y.
3. Rural water and sanitation had the highest annual budget of Kshs. 182, 736,995 for 2019/2020. The total expenditure on this sub-programme at the end of 2nd quarter period was Kshs. 1,500,000 representing 0.82%.
4. The total pending bills at the beginning of the period under review was Kshs.82, 672, 291 out of which Kshs.3, 288, 769 was paid leaving a balance of Kshs. 79,383,522.

The committee recommended that;

1. The department to implement projects within its allocated budget and timelines.

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2. The department to ensure that they pay pending bills and endeavour they are not carried over to the following financial year.

Mr. Speaker, having gone through that particular quarter of the year, it is my request that this House agrees with us and adopts the committee's report in this House as we are mandated. I believe that Members are here to support the works done by the committee. I wish to request Hon. Judy Lukio to second this report.

Hon. Judy Lukio: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I stand to second this report. If I go by the recommendations; the department to implement projects within its allocated budget and timelines, and that the department to ensure that they pay pending bills and endeavour they are not carried over to the following financial year. This report is well outlined and simple for us all to understand. I second it. Thank you.

(Question proposed)

Hon. Veronica Ikunyua: Thank you Mr. Speaker for giving me this chance to support this report on Agriculture. This is a job well done and I thank the Committee for following up the money allocated to that department. According to observations and recommendations there is no complain. I am requesting the department that they pay the pending bills so that our contractors can stop crying asking for their dues. They have worked and they are supposed to be paid.

Let us continue following this department to clear the pending bills. We have allocated money in the budget and I cannot see any reason why they have not paid. I support the report and congratulate them for a job well done. Thank you.

Speaker: May the mover give a reply.

Hon. Wilson Wakahiu: Asante Bwana Spika. Nawashukuru wenye wamechangia huu mjadala na ripoti ya kamati kuhusu matumizi ya wakati ambapo idara ya maji waliweza kuwafanyia huo muda kamati ilikuwa inaangalia. Niseme hata kama nimechelewa kiasi, tuweze kupitisha na ndio twende biashara ingine. Bunge tuna kazi ya idara zote za serikali hii. Nashukuru, asante.

(Question put and agreed to)

CONSIDERED RULING

VIBRANCY IN HOUSE BUSINESS

Speaker: I just want to make a brief observation that Hon. Members, we must see that we finish well. How we start does not matter so much as how we end. I believe it is a responsibility of each one of us to make sure that this House runs to the end. It will be unfortunate if we have to keep on postponing putting of a question and postponing business simply because we cannot be able to adopt a business when we do not have quorum in this House.

Therefore, I believe we must all have individual responsibility so that our collective responsibility propels this House in the right direction having the business we are supposed to address in making sure it is addressed every single day. I see people who go for marathon being strategic. They reserve some energy for finishing. Even if you go round 23 laps and you don't do the 24th Lap then it means you will not get the prize.

Therefore, let us make sure we are able to finish well. I don't know whether it will be a contradiction when we have time to go for recess, we postpone that recess but at the same

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time when we come in and we do not have quorum is unfortunate. We make decisions to go for recess because that simply means that people are tired and they appreciate that members do a lot of work or maybe you are so much engaged in the ground and you need some time to go there to see the citizens and absorb the pressure that is on the ground.

It is important we make sure we are vibrant as a House for us to run. Let us make sure we are able to participate with the business of the House with a lot of energy. I wish you well and I hope you are going to improve.

ADJOURNMENT

Speaker: This House stands adjourned until later today Wednesday, 1st September, 2021 at 2.30 p.m.

The House rose at 9:22 a.m.

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